

by damming small streams, had flooded the terrain in front of part of their wire.

(i) *Enemy Anti-Tank Defenses.*

The enemy had made elaborate preparations for defense against tanks. The greatest surprise was expressed by German prisoners at the absence of tanks in the action, their first question being, "Where are your tanks?"

Evidently expecting that any advance attempted in the sector would be assisted by tanks, the Germans had mined all the principal roads and the side streets of Moranville and Grimaucourt. The sign, "Achtung, Tankminee," was found in several places and several prisoners volunteered the information that the principal roads and all bridges had been mined. One tank mine was exploded by a German shell, just in rear of the support companies of the First Battalion, but far enough away to cause no injury.

The engineers were ordered, immediately after 11:00 a. m., to inspect the streets of the village, the roads and the bridges and buildings for mines, and they uncovered a great many. The mine used was a number of large caliber shells, with fuses connected with electric wires. In some cases the mines were arranged to detonate on contact; would support a loaded wagon, but would be discharged if a heavy truck or tank passed over them.